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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

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Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am responding to your July 23rd letter which forwarded correspondence from your constituent, and written regarding reports of Raoul Wallenberg and World War II American soldiers being held in the Soviet Union.

The Department of State follows all reports of imprisonment or mistreatment of American citizens abroad with great concern. We have thoroughly investigated reports that Americans were imprisoned in the Soviet Union during and after World War II and the Korean War and remain incarcerated. We have found no evidence to corroborate these reports.

I realize that nothing, short of a final accounting of all Americans lost during WWII and the Korean War, can fully alleviate the anguish of families and friends of valiant American servicemen whose whereabouts are still unknown. Further information may be sought from the Adviser to the Secretary of Defense for POW/MIA Affairs, OSD/ISA-POW-MIA, Room 4C839, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C. 20301-2400.

As you know, through many years and several administrations, Presidents, the Department of State, and Congress have shared a strong concern about the fate of Raoul Wallenberg. Chairman Gorbachev is well aware of the strong interest and concern that this Administration and the American people have in this case. Secretary Baker raised Mr. Wallenberg's case with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze last September and Assistant Secretary Schifter urged Soviet Foreign Ministry officials in December to be more forthcoming so as to put this important issue to rest. So far, the Soviet Government's response has been that Mr. Wallenberg died in a Soviet prison in 1947, that his body was cremated, and that the Soviet Union expresses its regrets to his friends and relatives.

There have been some signs of progress in recent months. Soviet authorities, including officials of the KGB, met with Mr. Wallenberg's relatives who provided additional information which the Soviet side undertook to investigate. We were disappointed, however, that Soviet officials were unable or

The Honorable
Thomas S. Foley,
House of Representatives

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unwilling to provide a much fuller account of what happened to Mr. Wallenberg. Our efforts to resolve the tragic mystery of Mr. Wallenberg's fate will continue until the Soviets provide a full and satisfactory clarification of their actions in this case.

I hope this information is of use to your constituent. If we can be of further assistance in this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

W
Janet G. Mullins
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:
Correspondence Returned.

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